

# CCRSCo

Clean Colorado River Sustainability Coalition Meeting Minutes

> Hosted By Bullhead City Bullhead City Council Chambers 1255 Marina Boulevard Bullhead City, AZ

> > Thursday, June 18, 2015 1:00 p.m.

# **Voting Membership Present**

Bob Leuck -Vice Chairman	Bullhead City
Greg Turner	Clark County Water Reclamation District
Rick Daniels	City of Needles
Steven Escobar	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Andy Jones	Colorado River Sewage Systems Joint Venture
Mark S. Nexsen-Chairman	Lake Havasu City
Jim Nafsey	Metropolitan Water District of So. California (via phone)
Nancy McLain	Mohave County Supervisor (Steven Moss)
Todd Tietjen	Southern Nevada Water Authority (via phone)
Tim Edwards	Town of Parker (via phone)

# Others in Attendance

Dr. David Young Tom Brady Keegan Littrell Becky Blasius Scott Bryan Raymond Mejia Dan Fischer Jerry McGuire Terry Shurte TJ Lafoon Terrv Dock Charlie Cassens Don Callahan Doyle Wilson Jerri Bracamonte Maria Lopez Zack Matson Shelly Ward

ASU **Bullhead City** Bullhead City Bureau of Reclamation (via phone) Central Arizona Project (via phone) Chemehuevi Indian Tribe **Clark County Water Reclamation District** Colorado River Sewage Systems Citizen **CRIT-Tribal Counsel** CRIT-EPO Lake Havasu City Lake Havasu City Lake Havasu City Lake Havasu City Metropolitan Water District of So. California (via phone) Today's News Herald-Lake Havasu City USDA-National Resources Conservation Service Arizona

Prior to the start of the meeting, members that attended in person, toured Davis Dam.

# I. Call to Order

Chairman Nexsen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

# II. Roll Call

With an introduction from each of the members, it was determined that there was a quorum.

#### III. Business

#### 1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from April 9, 2015-Chairman Nexsen

Vice Chairman Bob Leuck made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2015, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Andy Jones and unanimously carried.

#### 2. Treasurer's Report- Treasurer Jacobson

The Treasurer's Report was given by Chairman Mark Nexsen. He reported the ending balance as of last March as \$200,302.90. He said during the month of April we received some interest and in both April and May we had some expenses related to meetings, primarily supplies and meeting meals, leaving a balance as of May 31, 2015, of \$199,920.02. Membership invoices will be mailed in July for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

Vice Chairman Leuck made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Member Andy Jones and unanimously carried.

Chairman Nexsen also announced that the Director and Officer insurance renewal is due in July and expects it to be a little more than in the past, which was around \$2,462. He asked for a motion from the members to allow him continue with the insurance renewal and negotiate a fee.

Member Rick Daniels made a motion to authorize Chairman Nexsen to continue with the insurance renewal process and negotiate a fee. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Leuck, and unanimously carried.

#### 3. Election of Vacant Officer Position-Effective June 2015 (Secretary) – Mayor Nexsen

This item was deferred from the last meeting, and after much discussion, it was decided to defer the item again to the annual meeting in September; however, in the meantime, if anyone is interested in the Treasurer position, they are to contact Mayor Nexsen.

#### 4. Election of Vacant Officer Position-Effective June 2015 (Treasurer) – Mayor Nexsen

Chairman Nexsen announced that the position of Treasurer is also vacant and needs to be filled. After much discussion it was decided to defer the item to the annual meeting in September; however, in the meantime, if anyone is interested in the Treasurer position, they are to contact Mayor Nexsen.

# 5. Designation of Member to Report on Foam and Phosphorus Levels in River – Mayor Nexsen

Item deferred to next meeting.

# 6. Status of Foam and Phosphorus Levels, Blue Green Algae, etc. in River-Doyle Wilson and Todd Tietjen

Doyle Wilson reported that there really is not anything new to report on the status of foam and phosphorus. He said the blue-green algae has cleared out for the most part in a good portion of Lake Havasu. Steven Escobar from Chemehuevi Indian Tribe agreed and reported there is blue-green algae still persisting in their area as well near the casino restaurant. Doyle said it's still persisting in the marina areas, but as summer rolls through it should die off like it has every other year.

Doyle also reported that there was a small fish die-off at Thompson Bay near the marina and south end of the Island. He said he got numerous calls, but he never witnessed it himself, and said there was more than one species that was dying off. He said it was a phenomenon that took place over a three week period, but he has not heard anything since.

Member Todd Tietjen added that microcystis in Lake Mead is still a problem and especially for the Parks Service. The microcystis in upper Lake Mead, is still there, but not at the same abundance at the surface. He said they are still hard pressed to figure out what is driving this and will continue to sample, and look at the nutrient concentrations. He said something new to report is that earlier sample from upper Lake Mead that tested positive for a second type of toxin, but it's possible it's an antitoxin as opposed to mycrocystin.

He concluded with a positive note stating that what appears to be happening in Lake Mead and probably Mohave is that the algae occasionally gets enough nutrients to grow, but overall it does not have enough nutrients to sustain a real bloom.

#### 7. Discussion and Possible Action on CCRSCo funding for Student Research and Studies on the Colorado River-Doyle Wilson and Dr. David Young-ASU LHC Campus

Dr. David Young explained that ASU Lake Havasu was designed to have a strong sustainability of water component since day one. He pointed out to everyone, that the ASU Lake Havasu curriculum includes science courses focused on water, to make certain the students understand the importance of water to our region, economy, and everything we do. He announced they are now in the process of launching the Lake Havasu Lower Colorado River research program at ASU Lake Havasu with a faculty led by Dr. Doyle Wilson.

He explained that ASU has a very large emphasis on water with a diverse group of people throughout the University working on all kinds of different components. He has had conversations with research leaders at ASU, and informally proposed to the Director that he would like to see ASU invest in Lake Havasu and the ASU Lake Havasu campus. He explained that he is primarily looking for the initial funding to cover enough resources to bring on a research scientist to devote full-time energy, for three or four years, on whatever projects are identified to move forward. He said they have narrowed their interests into five areas that look at biotic and abiotic systems in the lake, as a first approach, such as bottom topography mapping, flow dynamics, understanding biological and ecological conditions of the lake in relation to quagga muscles, microcystis blooms, and looking at nutrient type and distribution of ratios of nutrients in the water columns. He anticipates launch of the program to be as soon as January of 2016.

He concluded by stating ASU Lake Havasu is very much interested in working with CCRSCo and would like to gain support for research projects.

Doyle Wilson added that the Lake Havasu area would just be a start of the research, but eventually, the research would reach out to the whole system, and impact of the lake in the region. Dr. Young said that his vision is that he has their resources in Lake Havasu, but would also like to tap into Tempe's resources, but still retain local control. He said he has spoken with Congressman Gosar and the Lake Havasu Marine Association and both are interested in the research program concept and being supportive.

Vice Chairman Leuck asked what Dr. Young is thinking would be the kind of support CCRSCo could offer. Dr. Young said he was thinking financial support, but he would like to come back with a real proposal to the group for investment and support in the near future.

Chairman Nexsen suggested that he submit his final proposal to the Technical Advisory Committee for review.

# 8. Discussion and Possible Action on Contract for CCRSCo Website - Doyle Wilson, LHC

Doyle Wilson announced that the Agreement between Ms. Daneane Gallardo of RexRuff Web Site Construction, an independent web site developer, and CCRSCo, is before the Board for approval. The contract includes the website development, the domain registration, website maintenance, search engine optimization, and general web best practices and advisement. He advised that the cost is nominal and is willing to get the website up and running as soon as possible.

Vice Chairman Leuck said the TAC Committee assisted Doyle with the information to be included in the website design, and several members have also spoken with Ms. Gallardo. He said she had some very good ideas and said this will be a great tool to put us back on the map, and agrees the cost if very reasonable.

Vice Chairman Leuck made a motion to approve the Agreement with RexRuff Web Site Construction and authorize Chairman Nexsen to execute the contract, seconded by Member Jones, and unanimously carried.

#### 9. Follow-up on Watershed Grant Application w/Bureau of Reclamation – Doyle Wilson

Doyle Wilson advised that the Bureau of Reclamation is not offering the grant opportunity this year, so we cannot apply for the grant at this time.

Becky Blasius with the Bureau of Reclamation stated that based on popularity the goal is to try and have the grant open in future years, but unsure of the reasons why it's not being offered this year.

#### **10. Discussion on Current Events**

Doyle Wilson asked Scott Bryan with CAP if they are seeing anything down at the intake area as far as aquatic vegetation or mycrocystis. Scott said they are primarily seeing spiny naiad, southern naiad, horned pondweed, or sago pondweed, and it is growing higher than in previous years. He said as far as mycrocystis is concerned, it's like everyone else is seeing, hit or miss.

Member Dan Fischer with Clark County Water Reclamation District announced that Jake Jacobson resigned from his position at the Laughlin Treatment Plan and introduced Greg Turner as the new manager.

Member Daniels asked if the CCRSCo group is monitoring what's going on at the PG&E plant regarding chromium. Mayor Nexsen explained that Board members have taken a tour of the plant and stay in close contact with them. Jerri Bracamonte advised that Kurt Russell, PG&E Site Manager, has been invited to the annual meeting in September to give a complete update.

#### 11. Future Meeting and Tour Suggestions 2015

Chairman Nexsen announced the next meeting will be in September in Lake Havasu City for the annual meeting for election of officers. He suggested that if anyone has ideas of facilities or tours for December's meeting to please contact Jerri Bracamonte for arrangements.

#### IV. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Jones and seconded by Vice Chairman Leuck. Chairman Nexsen declared the meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.